



BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. 615 214-6301
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333 Commerce Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37201-3300

REC'D TN
REGULATORY AUTH.
Guy M. Hicks
General Counsel

OCT 7 PM 3 '99

October 5, 1999

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Mr. David Waddell
Executive Secretary
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

Re: Approval of the Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement Negotiated by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Business Telecom, Inc. Pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
Docket No. ~~98-00211~~

99-00773

Dear Mr. Waddell:

Pursuant to Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Business Telecom, Inc. and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. are hereby submitting to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority the original and thirteen copies of the attached Petition for Approval of the Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement dated November 5, 1997. The Amendment extends the term of the Agreement until December 31, 1999.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Guy M. Hicks

cc: Charles B. Welch, Jr.
Attorney for BTI

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BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY
Nashville, Tennessee

In re: *Approval of the Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement Negotiated by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Business Telecom, Inc. Pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996*

Docket No. 98-00211

99-00773

PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF THE
AMENDMENT TO THE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT
NEGOTIATED BETWEEN BELL SOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.
AND BUSINESS TELECOM, INC.
PURSUANT TO THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

COME NOW, Business Telecom, Inc. ("BTI") and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., ("BellSouth"), and file this request for approval of the Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement dated November 5, 1997 (the "Amendment") negotiated between the two companies pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, (the "Act"). In support of their request, BTI and BellSouth state the following:

1. BTI and BellSouth have successfully negotiated an agreement for interconnection of their networks, the unbundling of specific network elements offered by BellSouth and the resale of BellSouth's telecommunications services to BTI. The Interconnection Agreement was approved by the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ("TRA") on July 21, 1998.
2. The parties have recently negotiated an Amendment to the Agreement which extends the term of the Agreement until December 31, 1999. A copy of the Amendment is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
3. Pursuant to Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, BTI and BellSouth are submitting their Amendment to the TRA for its consideration and

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approval. The Amendment provides that either or both of the parties is authorized to submit this Amendment to the TRA for approval.

4. In accordance with Section 252(e) of the Act, the TRA is charged with approving or rejecting the negotiated Amendment between BellSouth and BTI within 90 days of its submission. The Act provides that the TRA may only reject such an agreement if it finds that the agreement or any portion of the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or the implementation of the agreement or any portion of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

5. BTI and BellSouth aver that the Amendment is consistent with the standards for approval.

6. Pursuant to Section 252(i) of the Act, BellSouth shall make the Agreement available upon the same terms and conditions contained therein.

BTI and BellSouth respectfully request that the TRA approve the Amendment negotiated between the parties.

This 5th day of October, 1999.

Respectfully submitted,

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

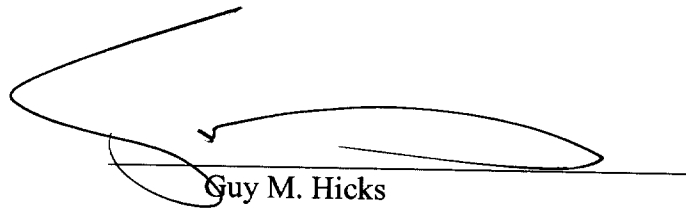
By: 

Guy M. Hicks
333 Commerce Street, Suite 2101
Nashville, Tennessee 37201-3300
(615) 214-6301
Attorney for BellSouth

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Guy M. Hicks, hereby certify that I have served a copy of the foregoing Petition for Approval of the Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement on the following via United States Mail:

Charles B. Welch, Jr., Esq.
Farris, Mathews, et al.
511 Union Street, Suite 2400
Nashville, TN 37219
Attorney for BTI



Guy M. Hicks

AMENDMENT
TO
THE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
BUSINESS TELECOM, INC. AND
BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.
DATED JANUARY 2, 1997

Pursuant to this Agreement (the "Amendment"), Business Telecom, Inc. ("BTI") and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") hereinafter referred to as the "Parties", hereby agree to amend the Interconnection Agreement between the Parties dated January 2, 1997 ("Interconnection Agreement").

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual provisions contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. Section XVII. B of the Interconnection Agreement is hereby amended to extend the term of the Agreement until December 31, 1999.

2. Pursuant to Section XVII.C, the rates, terms and conditions of the new agreement will be retroactive to the original expiration date of the Interconnection Agreement, January 2, 1999.

3. All of the other provisions of the Interconnection Agreement dated January 2, 1997 shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect until the new agreement is negotiated.

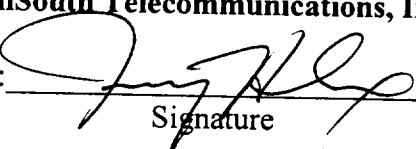
4. Either or both of the Parties is authorized to submit this Amendment to the appropriate regulatory agencies for approval subject to Section 252 (e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Amendment to be executed by their respective duly authorized representatives on the date indicated below.

Business Telecom, Inc.

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

By: 
Signature

By: 
Signature

Name: Anthony M. Cychala
Printed Name

Name: Jerry D. Hendrix

Title: Executive Counsel

Title: Senior Director

Date: 26 July 99

Date: 8/4/99